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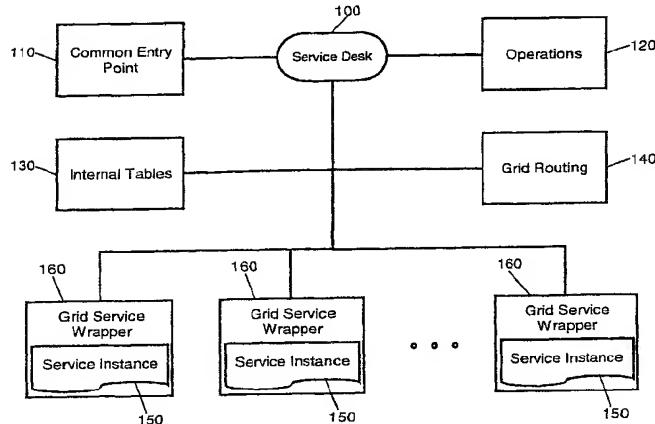
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A COMPUTING SERVICES GRID



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(57) Abstract: A computing services grid. The grid can include a service desk coupled to one or more computing service instances. Each service instance can conform to an interface which is common to all service instances in the grid. A routing component can be disposed in the grid. Specifically, the routing component can route individual service requests to individual ones of the service instances. An instance selection service is used to satisfy QoS characteristics associated with the requestor of the service. The grid further can include a service instance monitoring component. The monitoring component can monitor the performance of individual service instances charged with processing individual service requests. Fail-over logic can be configured to re-route service requests from selected service instances to others of the service instances where the monitoring component detects a fail-over condition in the selected service instances. In that regard, fail-over conditions can include error conditions and a performance deficiency conditions in which the performance of a selected service instance lags behind guaranteed levels of performance.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, COMPENDEX, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2001/027484 A1 (NISHI KOJI) 4 October 2001 (2001-10-04) abstract paragraphs '0013!-'0101! claim 1 figures 1,2 ---	1-10
A	CURBERA F ET AL: "Unraveling the Web services web: an introduction to SOAP, WSDL, and UDDI" IEEE INTERNET COMPUTING, IEEE SERVICE CENTER, PISCATAWAY, NJ, US, vol. 6, no. 2, 2002, pages 86-93, XP002257200 ISSN: 1089-7801 the whole document ---	1-10 --/--

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 2 349 715 A (MITEL CORP) 8 November 2000 (2000-11-08) the whole document -----	1-10

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